



COMPUTATIONAL RESEARCH DIVISION

March 24, 2009

Dr. Edward W. Bethel
50F-1603
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
1 Cyclotron Road
Berkeley, CA 94720

Dear Wes,

In my capacity as the Coordinating Principal Investigator of the SciDAC Applied Partial Differential Equation Center, I am writing to express my strong support for the SciDAC Visualization and Analytics Center for Enabling Technology in their upcoming program review, and our intention of continuing to collaborate.

Prior to working with VACET, our team developed and maintained an in-house adaptive mesh refinement (AMR) visual data analysis software application (ChomboVis). VACET helped us to transition from ChomboVis to VisIt, a production-quality, parallel capable visual data analysis application. In order for us to make this transition, we worked closely with the VACET team to specify dozens of capabilities required by our applications; the VACET team then implemented these capabilities, which are now part of the production VisIt release and as such are available to the larger computational science community.

In addition to a direct cost savings from not having to support and maintain such software, our team is in a better position now to perform visual data analysis and knowledge discovery of complex, time-varying AMR datasets now and in the future as we move into the petascale regime of computing and data production. Having this kind of capability is crucial for the success of our project and for our science stakeholders, who also have either adopted or are transitioning to day-to-day use of VisIt.

Sincerely,

Phillip Colella
Senior Staff Scientist